

Machine Learning 1

Lecture 2.1 - Expectation - Variance

Erik Bekkers

(Bishop 1.2.2)



Expectations

$$x \sim p(X)$$

- random variable $x \in X$ and function $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{E}[f] = \mathbb{E}_{\underline{x \sim p(X)}}[\underline{f(x)}] = \begin{cases} \sum_x f(x) p(x) & - \text{discrete} \\ \int_x f(x) p(x) dx & - \text{continuous} \end{cases}$$

$\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$

- For N points drawn from $p(X)$:

$$\mathbb{E}[f] \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N f(x_n)$$

- Conditional expectation:

$$\mathbb{E}[f|y] = \mathbb{E}_{\underline{x \sim p(X|Y=y)}}[\underline{f(x)}] = \begin{cases} \sum_x f(x) p(x|Y=y) \\ \int_x f(x) p(x|Y=y) dx \end{cases}$$

Variance

$$\mathbb{E}[f(x) + g(x)] = \mathbb{E}[f(x)] + \mathbb{E}[g(x)]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[c f(x)] = \sum_x c f(x) p(x) = c \mathbb{E}[f(x)]$$

$$\mathbb{E}[c] = c$$

- The expected quadratic distance between f and its mean $\mathbb{E}[f]$

$$\text{var}[f] = \mathbb{E}[(f(x) - \mathbb{E}[f(x)])^2]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[f(x)^2 - 2f(x)\mathbb{E}[f(x)] + \mathbb{E}[f(x)]^2]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[f(x)^2] - 2\mathbb{E}[f(x)]^2 + \mathbb{E}[f(x)]^2$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[f(x)^2] - \mathbb{E}[f(x)]^2$$

$$x \sim U[0, 1]$$

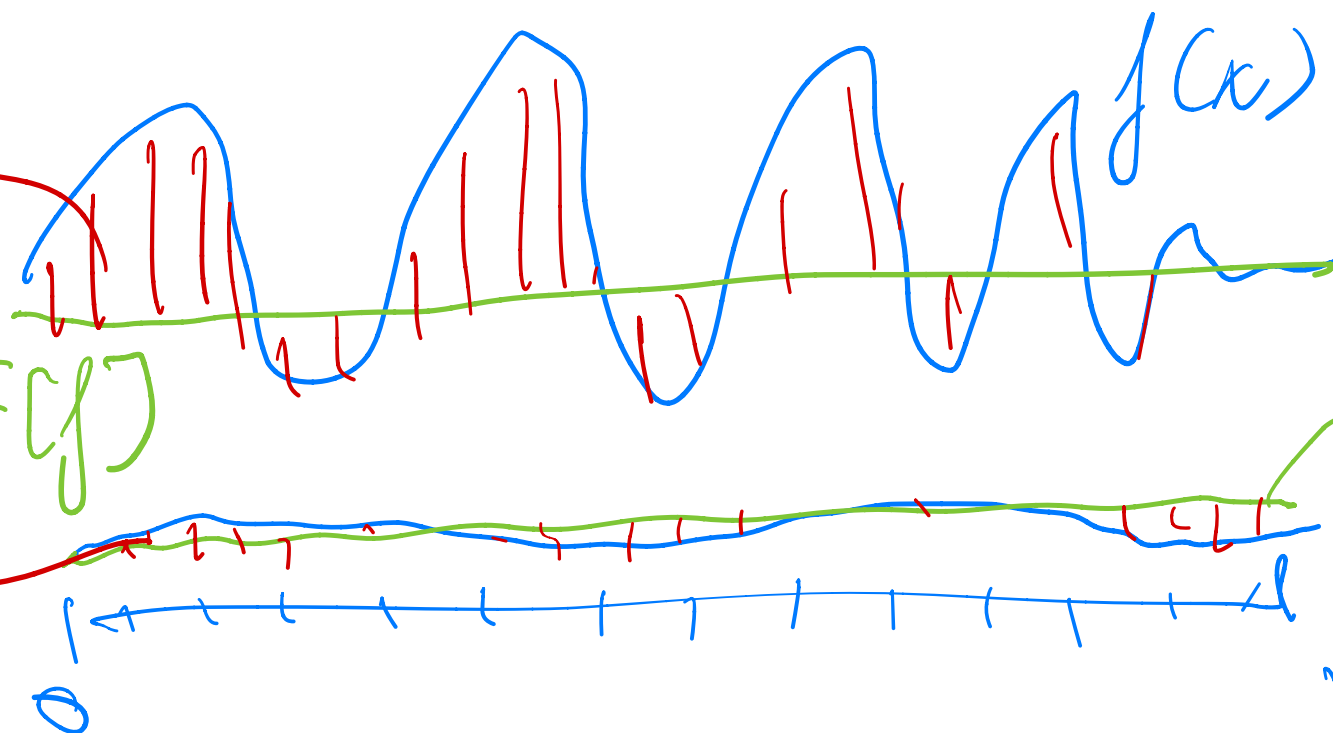
$$f(x), f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

large
 $\text{var}[f(x)]$

low
 $\text{var}[g(x)]$

$E[f]$

$E[g(x)]$
 $g(x)$



Covariance between 2 random variables

- Measures the extent to which X and Y vary together

$$\text{cov}[x, y] = E_{x, y \sim p(x, y)} [(x - E[x])(y - E[y])]$$

$$= E[xy - xE[y] - yE[x] + E[x]E[y]]$$

$$= E[xy] - E[x]E[y]$$

- Vectors of random variables \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} , covariance matrix:

$$\text{cov}[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}] = E_{x, y \sim p(x, y)} [(\underbrace{x - E[x]}_{\mathbb{R}^{D \times 1}})(\underbrace{y - E[y]}_{\mathbb{R}^{1 \times D}})^T] \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times D}$$

$x, y \in \mathbb{R}^D$

$$= E[\mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}^T] - E[\mathbf{x}] E[\mathbf{y}]^T$$

Covariance between 2 random variables

- ▶ Covariance between independent variables: $p(x, y) = p(x)p(y)$

$$\text{cov}[x, y] = E[xy] - E[x]E[y] = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_{x, y} xy p(x, y) dx dy &= \iint_{x, y} xy p(x) p(y) dx dy \\ &= \int x p(x) dx \int y p(y) dy = E[x]E[y] \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Note: $\text{cov}[x, y] = 0$ does not imply x, y independent

$$x \sim U[-1, 1] \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in (-1, 1) : p(x) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y = x^2$$

$$\text{cov}[x, y] = E[\cancel{xy}] - E[\cancel{x}]E[y] = 0$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 x^3 \frac{1}{2} dx = 0$$

"0" because "odd" "!"

- ▶ $\text{COV}[\mathbf{X}] \equiv \text{COV}[\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}]$